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**Evzones of the Greek King's Guard Stand at Attention**—The wall beneath their feet bears the names of battles earlier Greek soldiers fought to free their nation. Traditional uniform, now worn only on special occasions, takes 40 yards of material.

(SEE BULLETIN NO. 1)

B. ANTHONY STEWART

itage dates from Greek-speaking tribes which began to settle on the peninsula and neighboring Aegean islands about 3,000 B.C. Strategically situated, Greece has repeatedly fought outside domination. Rome conquered it in the second century B.C. Byzantines, Franks, and Venetians had their turns. Turkish rule began A.D. 1453.

A free monarchy was instituted in 1832. The Greek people, distrusting leaders of their own widely divergent factions, looked outside for a ruler. They preferred an English prince for their king. In 1823-24, England's poet, Lord Byron, had worked hard to unify Greek forces and it is said he might have been chosen as their monarch had he lived.

**Compares with Illinois**—In the end the Greeks chose Bavarian Prince Alexander, who reigned as Otto I from 1833 to 1862. Following Otto I, Danish princes reigned intermittently. The present King, Paul, is the grandson of the first Dane to rule Greece. His Queen, Frederika, is German —a granddaughter of Kaiser Wilhelm II.

Greece, with 7,600,000 people on 51,246 square miles of land, compares with Illinois in area and population. About one-fifth of the area is islands scattered in the Aegean Sea. Rugged mountains crisscrossing the peninsular mainland render two-fifths of it useless for farming. Almost as much more is suitable for pastureland only, leaving a scant one-fourth for cultivation. Consequently crop raising is intensive where the land allows. Three-fifths of the people are engaged in farming.

To get the most from the land, Greek farmers concentrate on export crops—tobacco, olives, currents, raisins, and figs—and so must import such staples as meat and flour. With American help, the country now uses areas that were alkali wasteland to produce all the rice it needs—15 times as much as it raised before World War II.

A large merchant marine is a source of revenue and brings fuel and raw materials needed for industries rapidly expanding in Athens and Salonika, the two chief cities, and in many other coastal towns.

Several factors combine to give Greece stability. Farm and factory production increases. National health has improved. The armed forces (illustration, cover) are well trained and well equipped. Thirteen nations are Greek allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. And their newest treaty (1953) allies Greeks defensively with their immediate neighbors, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

**References**—Greece is shown on the National Geographic Society's map of Europe and the Near East. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For further information, see "On the Winds of the Dodecanese," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for March, 1953; "War-Torn Greece Looks Ahead," December, 1949; "Erosion, Trojan Horse of Greece," December, 1947; "Classic Greece Merges Into 1941 News," January, 1941; and "Modern Odyssey in Classic Lands," March, 1940. *(Issues of The Magazine not more than 12 months old are available to schools and libraries at a specially discounted price of 50¢ a copy. Earlier issues sell for 65¢ a copy through 1946; $1.00, 1930-1945; $2.00, 1912-1929. Write for prices of issues prior to 1912.)*

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, February 9, 1953, "Greece's Delphic Oracle Always 'Knew Best'"; and "Greece Gives NATO a Balkan Bastion," April 21, 1952.

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UMI

B. ANTHONY STEWART

**Patriotic Sentiments and Postage Stamps Stock a Greek Shop**—At a window-in-the-wall shop in Pýgros, under Greek letters expressing "Hail to Our Nation," the shopkeeper hands out stamps to a customer. On either side of the window, panels of print advertise other items for sale in the little Peloponnesian store.

**Bulletin No. 1, November 16, 1953**

# Visiting Greek Rulers Say Thanks to America

When a Greek says "Okhi," he means "No."

Touring the United States throughout November are Greece's popular monarchs, King Paul and Queen Frederika. Appropriately, their arrival at New York on the liner *United States* and their reception as White House guests by President Eisenhower fell on October 28, now widely observed by Greeks as *No* Day.

World War II had raged in Europe nearly 14 months when, on October 28, 1940, the Greek Premier, General Metaxas, answered an emphatic "Okhi" (pronounced *ahk-hee*) to an Italian ultimatum.

**American Aid in Three Invasions**—Through the succession of crises that has plagued the Kingdom of the Hellenes since, substantial American help has implemented Greek bravery and determination in making *No* stick as the answer to invading Italians, Germans, and communists in turn.

Greek mettle was sorely tested by the communist attempt to take over the country in bitter civil warfare, 1946-49. The current royal visit expresses Greek thanks to America for aid totaling two and a quarter billion dollars to stave off Iron Curtain domination.

Nor is the present the first time Americans have worked for Greek freedom. The Balkan-Mediterranean nation waged a successful war of liberation from Ottoman (Turkish) rule, 1821-27. Money and supplies then flowed to Greece from organizations and individuals in the young American republic who believed in the Greek cause.

The free, classical Greece that gave the world a great cultural her-

the international border. It will aid in the conservation of water and help distribute it on both sides of the border for irrigation purposes. It will also control floods and supply hydroelectric power.

Two presidents dedicated the dam last month—Eisenhower of the United States of America, and Cortines of the United States of Mexico. With its 29 states, 2 territories, and a federal district similar to the District of Columbia, Mexico is organized like its larger neighbor.

Sometimes thought of as the land of siesta and mañana, Mexico nevertheless has energetically brought forth gushing oil wells and developed rich deposits of silver, copper, and other metals. Much of the country's 760,375 square miles is agricultural. Besides coffee, these areas produce corn, beans, cotton, and wheat. Improved irrigation and a sure water supply will boost output of many regions. Cattle graze vast ranges.

**Suffers Growing Pains**—Since 1519 when Cortés landed near what is now Veracruz and launched his conquest of the Aztec Empire, Mexico has suffered many growing pains. Villages have become towns and towns have grown into cities. Imported machinery now operates in factories of all kinds. Hundreds of small businesses expanded and new ones were born. Engineers built and improved roads.

Today "Tourismo" is big business, and the money that tourists spend in Mexico helps the country's development. The Pan American Highway and its branches lead visitors to many of Mexico's attractions. Monterrey with its factories reminds them of Pittsburgh. For Señor and Señora, silversmiths in Taxco will fashion anything from a simple silver pin to an ornately engraved tea set. Snow-clad peaks and blue coastal waters beckon mountain climbers and fishermen.

Along many roads outsiders are amazed to see Indian youngsters, sombreros pushed back from sun-browned faces and serapes thrown over their shoulders, gathered by stands selling "hamburguesas" and "hot-dos."

Mexico City, with its 3,000,000 population, offers a cross section of the country and is the biggest attraction of all. The Mexican capital is the oldest metropolis of North America—a strange mixture of old Spain and the most modern ideas of architecture. The massive cathedral is built over the ruins of an Aztec temple.

The National University, founded in 1553 as the "Royal and Pontifical University of Mexico," was old before Jamestown and Plymouth were settled. It had awarded more than 27,000 degrees by 1775—a year before the United States declared its independence. Its students go to bullfights on Sundays, but they also enjoy "futbol" and "beisbol" played in the high, thin air 7,350 feet above sea level.

**References**—Mexico appears on the Society's map of Mexico and Central America. For further information, see "Experiment in International Living," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for March, 1953; "Lost Kingdom in Indian Mexico," October, 1952; "Mexico's Booming Capital," December, 1951; "From the Halls of Montezuma" (21 color photographs), February, 1944; "On the Cortés Trail," September, 1940; and numerous other articles listed in the *Cumulative Index to the National Geographic Magazine* in your school or public library; see also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, February 23, 1953, "Supermarkets Threaten Mexico's 'Mercados'"; and "Mexico City Is Continent's Third Largest," October 22, 1951.

UMI

WILLIAM G. PRESTON

**Awesome Produce for a Mexican Cornfield**—Paricutín, volcano near Uruapan, sprouted violently from the ground in 1943 almost at the feet of a plowing Indian. Natives called it *El Monstruo,* The Monster. In ten weeks it grew to a 1,100-foot cone. Fields and towns long suffered heavy damage until volcanic activity ceased in 1952.

**Bulletin No. 2, November 16, 1953**

# Coffee Paces Mexico's Progress

Coffee has become Mexico's champion "jumping bean." It promises to vault the land of the Aztecs into the No. 3 position among the world's largest coffee growers before the year ends.

This may be news to those who never thought of Uncle Sam's neighbor across the Rio Grande as raising coffee in any amount. At one time sixth in rank of world producers, it has in recent years fluctuated between fourth and fifth place. Of Mexico's agricultural products, coffee is the second-most-important export.

**Progress Needs People and Ideas**—The jump in this field paces the advances Mexico is making in the over-all development of its natural resources. The big program under way requires both people and ideas. Mexico has both. The nation's population has more than doubled since the beginning of this century, and is now close to 27,000,000—almost twice as large as that of Canada.

Typical of big ideas and accomplishments is the 55-million-dollar Falcon Dam across the Rio Grande. The result of cooperation between Mexico and the United States, it is the first of three such dams to span

chase price—and of the Ladies' first Vice Regents, among them some of the most outstanding women of the times.

If the campaign had not been launched so promptly, it is a question whether Mount Vernon would have escaped encroaching ruin. From 1861 to 1865 war divided the country. The South, left prostrate, had no money for such a cause. Postwar depression gripped the North.

Down through the years, the Ladies, as the association is popularly called, have painstakingly restored Mount Vernon as nearly as possible to its peak of glory. In the gardens, flowers and vegetables grow again. Kitchen, smokehouse, cobbler's shop, and stables have been restored. Many of Washington's own pieces of furniture and other possessions, scattered after his death in 1799, have been located and brought back from far corners of the land.

All money which admissions bring in goes exclusively for improvements and maintenance. For children under 12, precollege school groups, and uniformed members of the armed services, the admission fee is waived.

**References**—Mount Vernon may be located on the Society's map of the Southeastern United States.

For additional information, see "Mount Vernon Lives On," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1953; and "Home of the First Farmer of America," May, 1928.

**This Puzzles Historians**—"L W" were the intials of Lawrence Washington, George's half brother, and also of their grandfather. Experts disagree which Lawrence laid Mount Vernon's cornerstone. First house on the site may have been built by the grandfather in the 1690's, hence the stone may have been salvaged from his dwelling.

JOHN E. FLETCHER

UMI

Bulletin No. 3, November 16, 1953

# Ladies Saved Mount Vernon for Nation

Mount Vernon, home of George Washington and a cherished patriotic shrine today, might have gone with the wind long ago but for the intervention of the country's women when its days seemed numbered.

Many believe that the famous mansion always has been kept up by the Federal Government. Others think that Washington's native Virginia is responsible for the careful preservation of the house that looks down on the placid Potomac (illustration, back cover).

The true fact is that neither the Nation nor State showed any interest in Mount Vernon when it was offered to them a century ago.

**Decay Blighted Mansion**—John Augustine Washington, Jr., a great-grandnephew of the first president, offered to sell the place to either government in the mid-1800's. He had come into possession of the dwelling and some surrounding land after the original 8,000-acre estate had been divided and subdivided among Washington's heirs.

Dilapidation was creeping over the mansion and John did not have the money to pay for repairs that had been neglected for years. Indeed, the necessity for entertaining a constant stream of visitors sorely taxed his pocketbook.

The women's organization that sprang into being at this crucial moment has been so modest and so little inclined to publicize itself that untold numbers among Mount Vernon's throngs of visitors—there were more than a million in 1952—never suspect this historic landmark needed saving.

This year, however, the Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union places its story before those making the pilgrimage to the hallowed spot. It does so through a centennial birthday exhibit at its Mount Vernon headquarters.

**A Pen Arouses the People**—Heroine of the rescue story was red-haired Ann Pamela Cunningham, a semi-invalid with an indomitable will. When she heard Mount Vernon was going begging, she picked up a pen that started a nation-wide drive to save the mansion and its 200 remaining acres.

She opened her campaign with a letter published in the *Charleston Mercury* for December 2, 1853, addressed to "Ladies of the South" and calling for funds to purchase Mount Vernon "as a monument of love and patriotism." The response was enthusiastic. Contributions poured in. By 1858 the association Ann Cunningham founded for the purpose was able to acquire the historic estate for $200,000. It took formal possession in 1860.

The centennial exhibit is built around a portrait of Miss Cunningham. There is a copy of her famous letter to the *Mercury*, the sale agreement, early maps, and other historic documents. One such paper is a Wells Fargo receipt for a $3,000 gold bar representing donations to the association from Californians.

There are also photographs of Edward Everett—statesman, educator, and orator, who alone raised more than $69,000 of the $200,000 pur-

animals get as much as a third more forage, which means less supplementary grain feeding. Also, they say, it makes cows eat a varied diet, for Bossy is a great one to wander around a large pasture, eating only one variety of its grasses. In a small space, she eats everything rather than go hungry.

**Hot Showers**—Like factory workers coming off a shift, cows have hot shower baths. Dairy-farm loafing barns and stainless-steel milking sheds with electric milking machines are nothing more than industrial processing plants.

Assembly-line living for dairy cows reaches the acme of modernity in the Los Angeles milk shed, where the farmer speaks of a cow as he would of a machine. There the "de-pastureized" herds never see rolling meadows, but live in corrals. They get "shotgun feedings" of orange and beet pulp, copra meal, molasses, and grains—all of it calculated to be transformed into milk as quickly and efficiently as possible.

As to the efficiency reports, as long as a production-line cow gives about four gallons of milk a day, she is kept on the feedroll, but few can stand the pace for more than two years. In modern dairying, there can be no sentiment for a nonproducer. As soon as a cow fails to meet her quota, she is on her way to become beefsteaks and hamburger.

A Michigan cow holds the world's championship for producing the most milk in a single calendar year. An eight-year-old Holstein, she averaged 14 gallons a day, yielding 42,805.6 pounds of milk in 1951. The amount of milk she gave every 10 days equalled her own weight!

For sustained year-after-year performance, the international blue ribbon goes to a California Holstein, aged 17. Last figures show her lifetime yield has passed the 267,308-pound mark. (A gallon of milk weighs 128 fluid ounces, or eight pounds.)

**Cows Came with Columbus**—Columbus brought the first cattle to America in 1493, on his second voyage. Those bovine passengers certainly would be amazed by the super-revolution which has occurred since in the dairy industry here in the United States.

Thanks to its bountiful Bossies, the nation gets more milk, butter, and cheese for its menus than any other country. Milk production in 1952 totaled more than 13 billion gallons. That year the consumption of all kinds of dairy products per person was estimated at 743 pounds, or more than two pounds a day.

Milk is a favorite beverage in this land. Some like it plain, to others it tastes better in malteds or similar concoctions. Its nourishment value is extremely high, and it is an essential in most school lunches. A celebrated actress of bygone days, Anna Held, used to attribute her beautiful skin to the fact that she took baths in milk. Modern scientists, however, know that milk contributes best to radiant health when used as a food.

**References**—For additional information, see "Beltsville Brings Science to the Farm," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for August, 1953; "America's 'Meat on the Hoof'," January, 1952; "4-H Boys and Girls Grow More Food," November, 1948; "Deep in the Heart of 'Swissconsin'," June, 1947; and "The Taurine World," December, 1925 (out of print; refer to your school or public library).

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B. ANTHONY STEWART

**All Decked out for Dinner**—Their blond brows circled with coronet-like identification chains, a trio of demure Jerseys lines up for a meal. The waiter is a student of animal husbandry working his way through college. Ancestors of the cows came to the United States in 1850 from Jersey, largest of Britain's Channel Islands, off the French coast. Believed of French descent, the Jersey is rather small, gentle, and usually cream or fawn in color. It gives milk uncommonly rich in butterfat.

**Bulletin No. 4, November 16, 1953**

# Dairy Cows Lead a Factory Life

The life of a cow, once spent in pastoral association with daisies and dairymaids, has become a factory existence.

Modern dairy cows have cafeterias. They have efficiency ratings, on which the marks, so far as they are concerned, read from Grade A to Abattoir. Movable electric fencing confines them to shrewdly calculated daily bits of meadow.

**Assembly Line Food**—Cow cafeterias deliver breakfast of cut green grass. Overhead feeding devices, for all the world like automat restaurants, dole out rations of hay and grain, scientifically measured for the proper milk yield.

When allowed to eat out, cows are chaperoned by disagreeably but not dangerously charged wires. Dairy operators using the modern system of "accordion pastures" divide their meadows into plots varied in size to suit the growing season. Each day, fence and herd are moved.

Favorable reports on the system have come in from such widely separated states as California and New Hampshire. Enthusiasts claim the

Rhode Island. Scarcely an acre is sheltered from the stormy sea. The 20,000 Shetlanders combine small-scale farming (crofting) and commercial fishing to make ends meet. The islanders are expert sailors.

For centuries the Shetland pony worked hard in summer for the crofter. It carried peat for winter fuel and seaweed to fertilize the fields. It pulled a crude wooden plow. It transported heavy riders long distances over treacherous ground in fast time before roads were built. Through winter's blasts it foraged for itself on fen and moor because the crofts produced only enough fodder for sheep and cattle.

In 1851 came an unhappy day when the Shetland pony was first brought to the coal pits of northern England. There, smaller size and great strength made it superior to Welsh ponies. Though well fed, it lived underground day and night the year round and labored hard transporting coal through cramped passages.

When the machine age came, British mines were electrified and mechanized. Motor vehicles rolled on improved roads in Shetland. The ponies were outmoded and liberated—freed, as it turned out, for travel by steamer to America in greater numbers. Here, because they are gentle, intelligent, and sure-footed, most of their work is child's play.

Some of the ponies recently exported from Shetland have traveled by air. But today far more purebreds are born in the United States, Scotland, England, and elsewhere in Europe where they are popular, than are shipped from their traditional home.

**Siberian Origin Possible**—Whether the pony came to the Shetlands from Siberia by way of Norway 900 years ago or whether it has been there much longer, it is what bleak environment made it, authorities agree. It had to be strong, small, and resourceful to survive.

Like the ponies and sheep dogs, Shetland sheep and cattle are small and have special qualities that have come to be appreciated overseas. Some of the sheep are chocolate brown to match the peat bogs among which they wander. On some islands they are walled out of the fields so that they must comb the beaches for seaweed.

Hard living gives them soft wool, the finest of which is gently "rooed," or pulled from their necks. From it "lacework" shawls are made of such fine texture they can be drawn through a finger ring.

Shetlanders are of Norse origin and Icelandic words still occur in their speech. Pytheas, Greek geographer and navigator, is believed to have visited the Shetland Islands about 325 B. C.

**References**—The Shetland Islands are shown on the Society's map of the British Isles.

For additional information, see "Shetland and Orkney, Britain's Far North," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1953; "England's Wild Moorland Ponies," January, 1946; and "Orkneys and Shetlands," February, 1921.

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Bulletin No. 5, November 16, 1953

# Shetland Emigrants Win American Hearts

To the sturdy Shetland pony, currently riding a record tide of popularity, America is the land of opportunity, and the machine age is the age of liberation from slavery.

The toy-size creature, standing 40 inches high at the shoulder compared to the 60 inches other grown horses attain, has been a familiar sight to American children throughout the 20th century. To own a Shetland has been the dream of every child who ever straddled one or rode in a Shetland basket cart at a carnival or fair.

A sharp increase in the number of purebred Shetland ponies has been recorded in the United States in 1952 and 1953. Brisk bidding at sales has pushed prices to as much as $4,000 for a show champion.

The Shetland sheep dog, too, enjoys a current American vogue. Loyal and lovable, this miniature working collie stands about 15 inches to the collie's 22. New among recognized breeds, it was established early in this century. The British nickname, Sheltie, is now widely used in referring to both the ponies and sheep dogs in America.

**Set in Storm-lashed Seas**—The Shetland Islands number about 100 gale-and-spray-swept land dots lying north beyond the Orkneys off Scotland's tip. Irregular in shore line, they total only half as much land as

ROBERT WILLIAMSON

**Shaggy Shetland Ponies Graze Scanty Moors near Scalloway**—On the largest Shetland island, miniature horses crop meager grass down to the soil. Bleak climate and short rations keep the hardy ponies small—halfway in size between normal mounts and the terrier-high eohippus, ancestor of all horses, which lived 50 million years ago.

**Mount Vernon's "Old Look" Inspired This Rare Lithograph Made Before Ruin Threatened the Mansion (Bulletin No. 3)**

Overland visitors arriving in 1840, the date this print appeared, saw this façade of Mount Vernon. The much-photographed river view of the porticoed veranda is more familiar to moderns. Only a middle section of the house existed in 1759 when it became George and Martha Washington's home. He enlarged it with two wings and a third story. Professional architects were unknown in the Colonies, so he had to do his own planning. The eight stately columns which he added to the riverside porch are only one example of his genius for design.